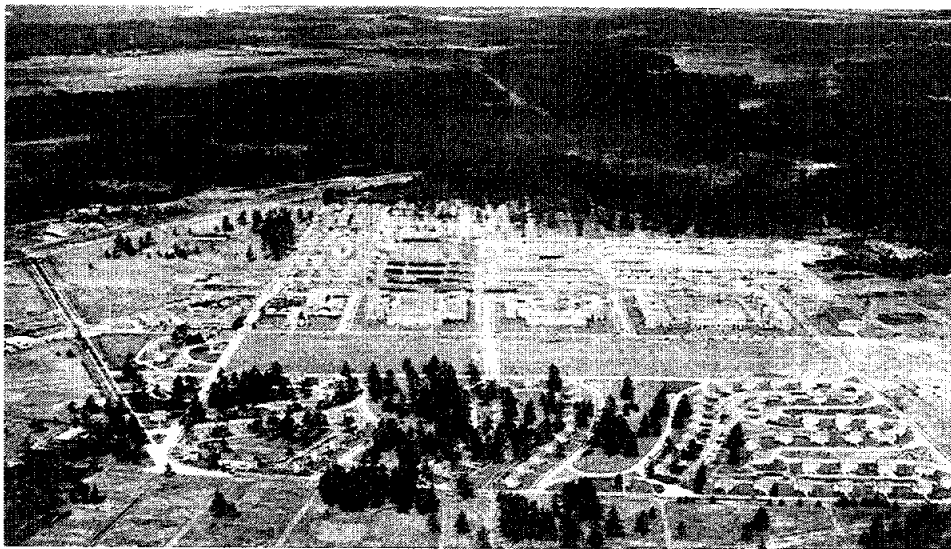


PART C: ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

INTRODUCTION

The analysis and evaluation of historic landscape resources at Fort Lewis is based on historical research and existing conditions inventories conducted in Phase I. The purpose of the evaluation is to identify the significant character-defining landscape features, patterns, and relationships that define and comprise the historic landscape at Fort Lewis. Character-defining features are defined by the National Register of Historic Places as the tangible evidence of the activities and habits of the people who occupied, developed, used, and shaped the landscape to serve human needs. Landscape characteristics evaluated at Fort Lewis include response to natural features, overall organization, land uses, circulation, vegetation, structures, views and vistas, and small-scale features. These features and landscape patterns are organized into **Character Areas and Management Zones** which set the framework for the development of preservation treatments for the Historic District. The analysis and evaluation focuses on two historic periods; Camp Lewis: 1917-1919, the temporary cantonment construction period; and Fort Lewis: 1926-1939, the permanent military development period.

It is important to note that the primary source of the analysis and evaluation is Phase I of the Landscape Development Plan: Fort Lewis, therefore, research citations are not repeated. Additional data not derived from the landscape history are cited in chapter endnotes.



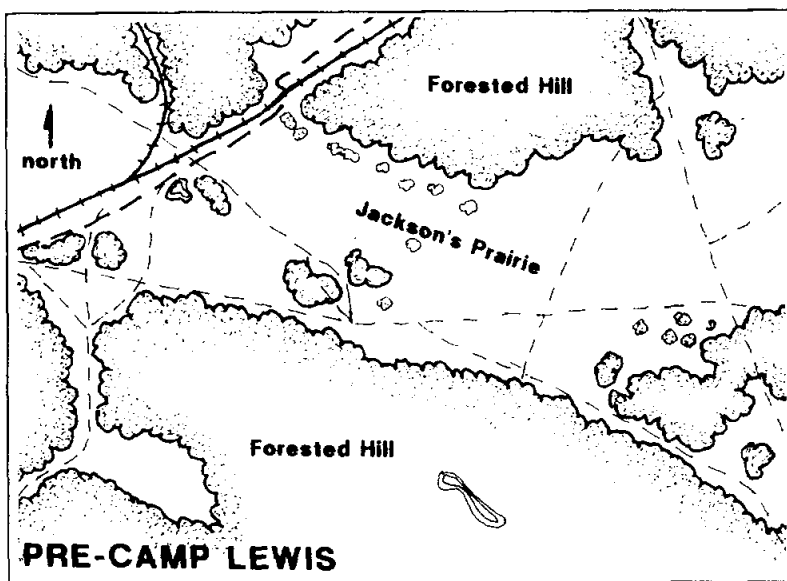
HISTORIC CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES

HISTORIC CHARACTER-DEFINING FEATURES

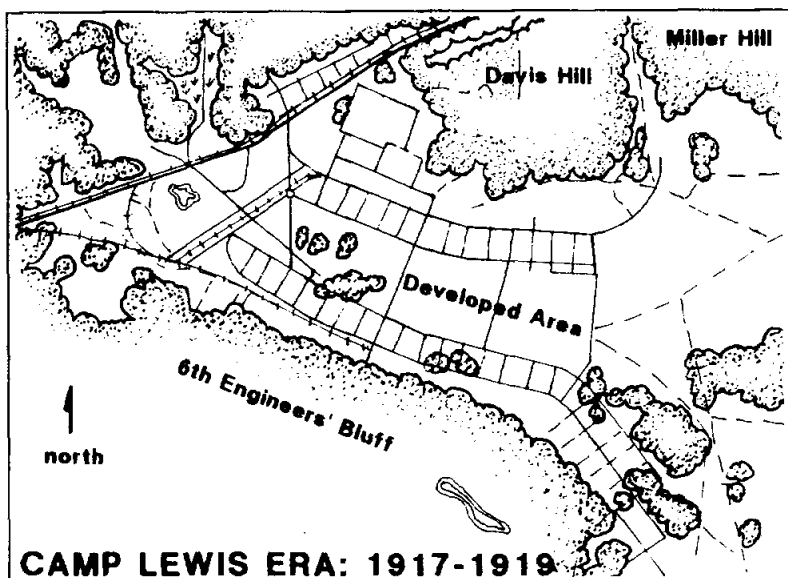
RESPONSE TO NATURAL FEATURES

Response to Natural Features describes the physical environment of the region and how the land use, construction materials, layout, design of buildings, and methods of transportation were adapted to the natural environment. Camp Lewis was sited on Jackson's Prairie, part of the Nisqually Plain which was located at the south end of Puget Sound. Jackson's Prairie was a large level

plain generally oriented east-west and surrounded on the north and south by Douglas-fir covered hills (later named Davis Hill and 6th Engineers' Bluff respectively). The existing topography played an important role in determining which of the military's standard cantonment plans would be used at Camp Lewis. The standard U-shaped plan provided a good match to Camp Lewis'



Pre-Camp Lewis context map showing the existing natural features.



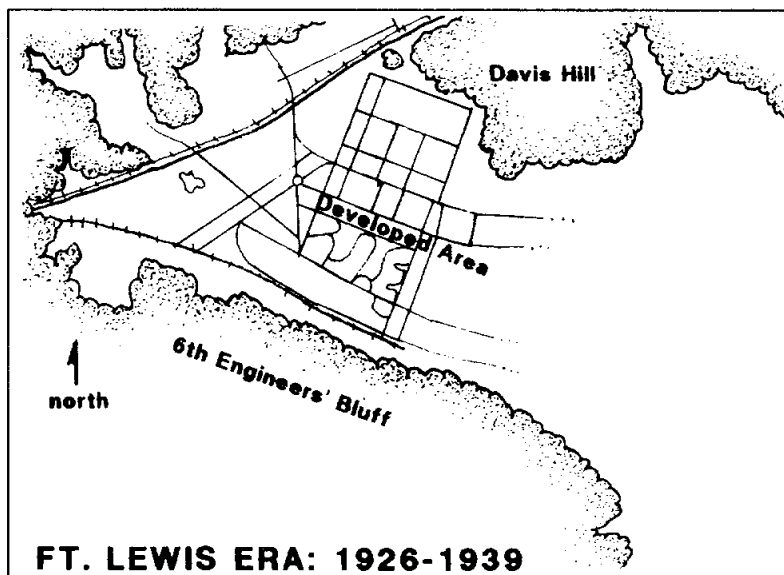
Camp Lewis context map showing how the site plan responded to the existing natural features.

Jackson's Prairie location. The standard plan was modified slightly by Lt. Colonel Ehrenbeck, the camp surveyor and Carl F. Pilat the Planner and Consulting Engineer for Camp Lewis, to "fit" exactly into the existing landscape.¹

Other existing natural features such as the soils, vegetation and the natural beauty of the area provided an ideal cantonment site. The porous gravelly soils derived from glacial outwash materials provided a good base for building foundations, a ready supply of road

prairie in between the surrounding hills and the orientation of the parade ground and primary buildings took advantage of scenic vistas of Mt. Rainier. The open prairie landscape with isolated clumps and/or individual Douglas-fir and Oregon oak trees also lent itself well to the establishment of a park-like setting which was an important design criteria for the post.

Response to Natural Features Summary and Analysis



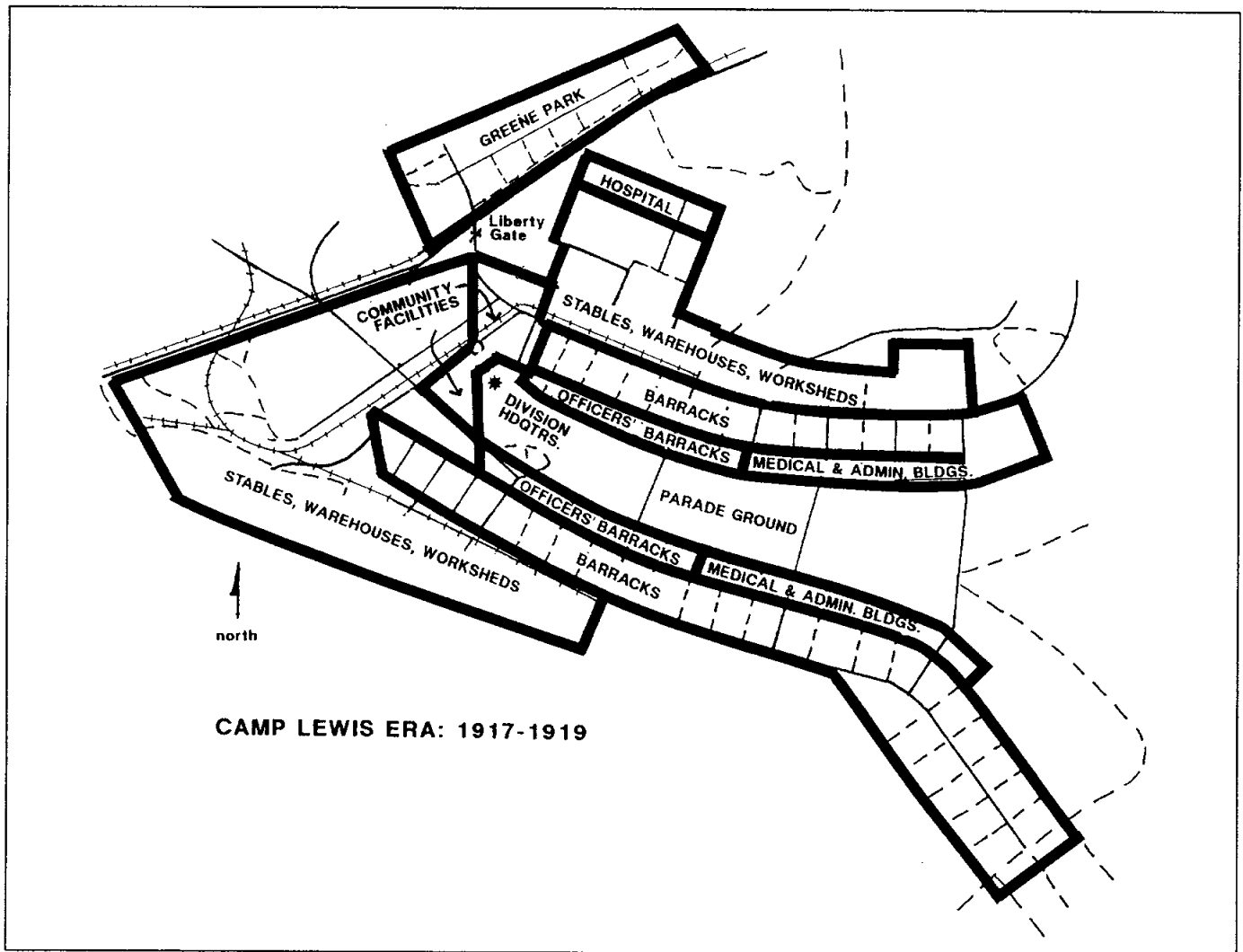
Fort Lewis (1926-1939) context map showing extent of permanent development and similarities between site relationships established during the Camp Lewis era.

surfacing material, and proper drainage. Timber for construction was harvested from the nearby forested hills. In addition to meeting the functional needs of the Camp, the site plan was also designed to encourage recreational opportunities and aesthetic enjoyment by taking advantage of the existing forests, prairies, lakes, and dramatic views of Mt. Rainier.

The site plan designed for the permanent military post, Fort Lewis, was influenced by the same natural features as Camp Lewis. The new development was sited on the

The existing natural environment greatly influenced the final design and layout of both the Camp Lewis and Fort Lewis site plans, establishing the physiographic framework for the historic development. Those same influencing natural features are evident today although development that has occurred inside and outside the historic district has eliminated some open spaces within the core of the developed area and much of the open space on the perimeter. The forested hills and remaining open spaces help define the historic character of Fort Lewis.

OVERALL ORGANIZATION



Overall Organization describes any patterns characterizing the landscape as a whole. For example, the overall pattern of the circulation networks, land use areas, natural features, clusters of structures, and the relationships between these elements. For designed landscapes such as Camp Lewis and Fort Lewis, this character-defining feature documents the design philosophy and design criteria of the standard site plans developed by the military.

The Construction and Repair Division, Office of Quartermaster General was in charge of building the sixteen temporary cantonments for World War I. A group of professionals made up of a citizens advisory board, architects, planners, and engineers were brought together by the head of the Division to prepare plans for the temporary structures at the cantonments. The advisory board was made up of landscape architects and technical advisors on city planning, housing, water supply, and sanitation. Prominent members of this board included

landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. and the architect and city planner George B. Ford. Together, these civilian and military professionals developed design criteria and standardized site and building plans which were then adapted on a regional level to fit the needs and existing conditions of the individual cantonment sites. During this era, order and efficiency were the overriding design themes.

At Camp Lewis, the standard U-shaped arrangement of buildings, roads, and structural units was selected for their site plan. This plan provided the most logical and efficient use of space on Jackson's Prairie. The developed area was defined by the prairie boundaries which allowed maximum construction with minimal grading. The plan also took advantage of existing transportation networks such as Pacific Highway and Northern Pacific Railway, and allowed the Army to consolidate uses which saved on sewer lines and utilities, and continued the tradition of separating structures and uses based on military hierarchy.

Each leg of the U-shaped site plan stretched two-and-one-half miles east into the prairie. Liberty Gate, located on Pacific Highway and Lewis Drive was the main entrance to the Camp. The parade ground served as the central axis of the plan with adjacent land use areas extending away from the parade ground. The Division Headquarters was located on a circular drive off of Lewis Drive, at the head of the parade ground. Moving from the center of the plan to the outer edges were the following types of buildings and spaces; the parade ground, officers' barracks, enlisted men's barracks, and on the perimeter of the plan, bounded by

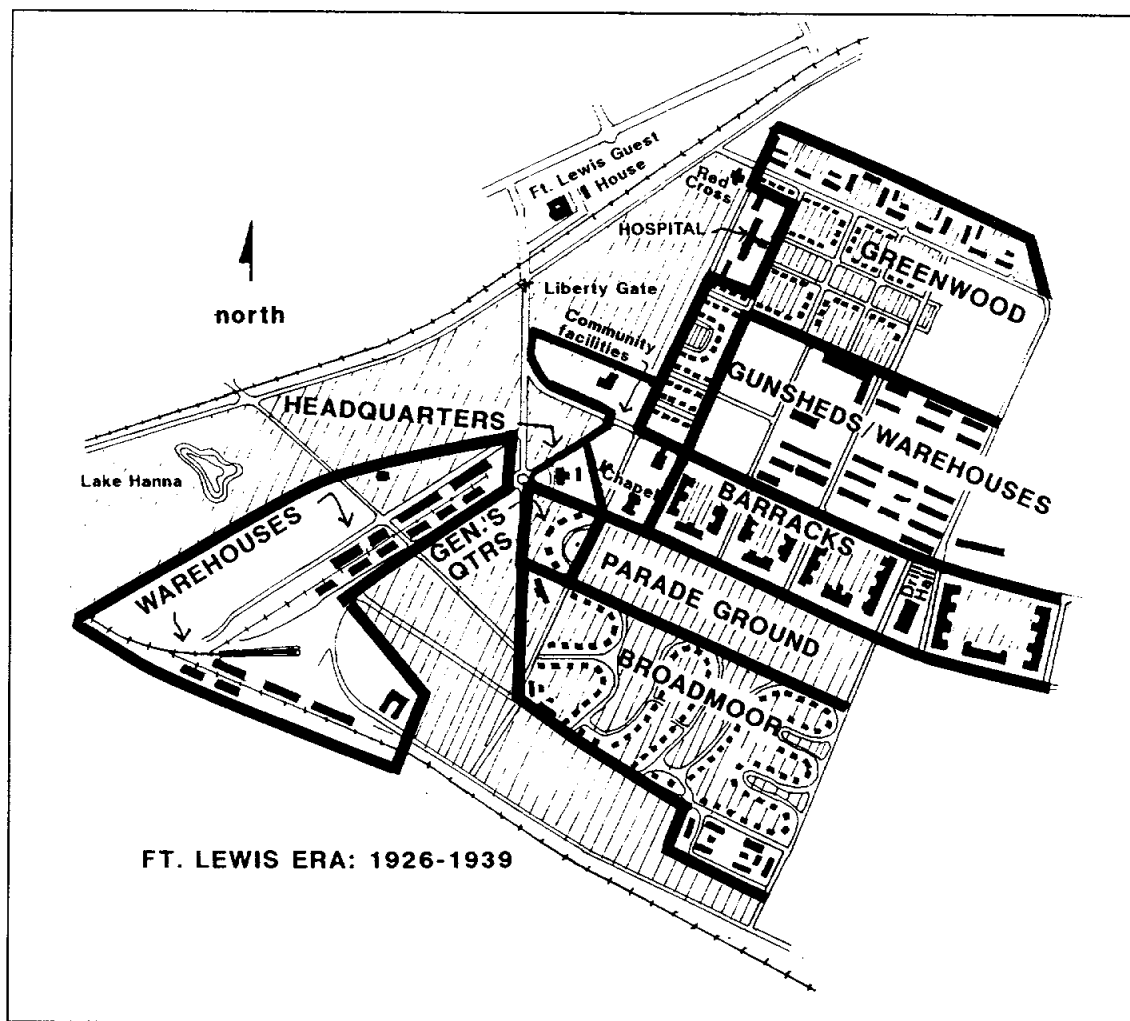
the forested hills, were the stables, warehouses, and worksheds.

During the design and construction of permanent bases in the 1920s and 1930s, the integration of both military and civilian planning and design principles again played a critical part in the creation of national design standards. Although order and efficiency were still important design themes, creating livable, aesthetically pleasing working and living environments also became important considerations. The incorporation of 1920s and 1930s town-planning principles was especially influential in the design process. Major principles included the layout of distinct land use areas, the separation of housing by rank, a well-ordered circulation system (for vehicles and pedestrians), a harmonious architectural design, and a comprehensive landscaping plan.

The layout and design of Fort Lewis was modeled closely on the original Camp Lewis site plan. The new site plan incorporated the existing roads and infrastructure and many of the land use area locations were duplicated. The plan followed the U-shaped configuration of the cantonment plan with the parade ground as the central axis and housing areas located along three of its sides.

The Generals' quarters were at the head of the parade ground facing Mt. Rainier, the Officers' quarters were south of the parade ground, and the Barracks were on the north.

The Non-Commissioned Officers' quarters and the warehouses, stables, and gunsheds were located north of the Barracks. The new hospital, and community service buildings (theater, chapel, bank, etc.) also retained their Camp Lewis location northeast and east of the Barracks, respectively. Although the 1928 site plan prepared by Lt.



Colonel Alden indicated that the new post would stretch the full two-and-one-half miles of the original camp, only about one-third of this development was realized before the carefully designed site plan was abandoned for emergency W.W.II. construction.

In addition to the organization and layout of the post as a whole, individual land use areas within the plan also followed 1920s-1930s town-planning principles which created a distinct design character. These principles are especially evident in the family housing areas; the General's quarters, Broadmoor (Officers' quarters), and Greenwood (NCO quarters). Major design criteria included

establishing standard building setbacks and lot sizes, a well established road hierarchy and a unified pedestrian circulation system, and the incorporation of open spaces with formal and informal (service-oriented) characteristics. These design principles were modified in terms of size, scale, and degree of ornamentation to reflect the military hierarchy.

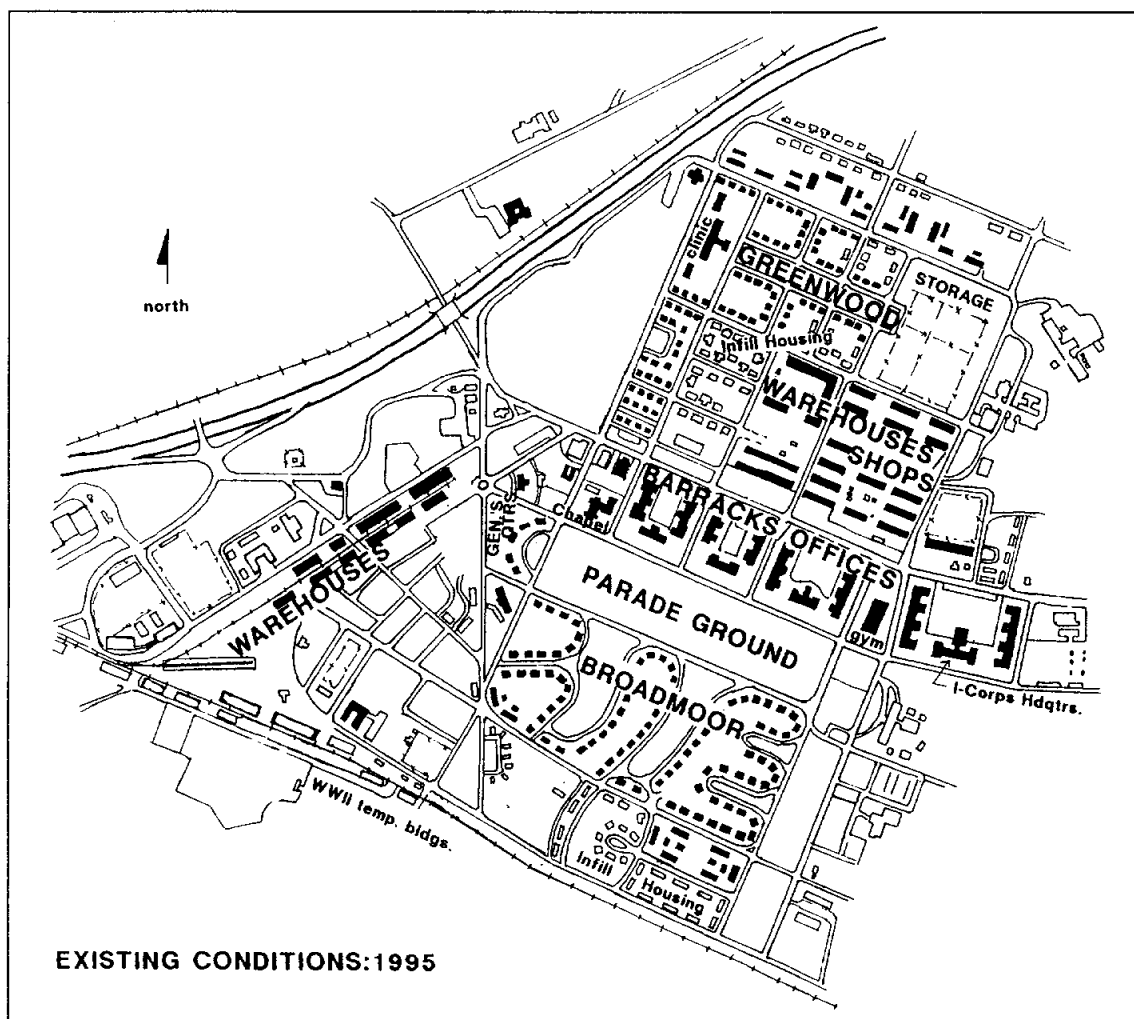
Although the entire Fort Lewis landscape followed the same overall design principles, the housing areas had distinct layout patterns. The Generals' quarters were sited around a formal semi-circular open space facing the parade ground and a monument

built in honor of the 91st Division. Houses had generous yards with 60-65 foot setbacks and formal front yards. Private access was provided by a service lane to the rear with individual driveways provided for each house. A large, triangular-shaped, informal open space shared by all of the Generals' quarters was located beyond the service lane.

Broadmoor, the housing area for the commissioned officers, was located south of the parade ground. Here the houses lined curvilinear roads, had 40-45 foot setbacks, formal front yards, and faced onto large formal open spaces. Service lanes, informal back yards, and individual driveways for access to basement garages, were located at the rear of the buildings. The layout plan of six, five-unit multi-family townhouses, located in the southeast corner of

Broadmoor, varied somewhat from the core plan. These buildings were arranged along a rectangular-shaped block, and had shared garages sited in a centrally located informal open space.

In Greenwood, the non-commissioned officers' housing area located in the northwest portion of the base, most of the single-family housing was arranged around U-shaped open spaces while the remainder were sited on short blocks. Generally, the front yards and open spaces in front of houses were formal in character while service roads, informal yards and open spaces, parking spaces and/or driveways, were found at the rear. The NCO quarters had the smallest yards, setbacks (30-35'), and open spaces. A variation to this layout occurred at the end of the construction



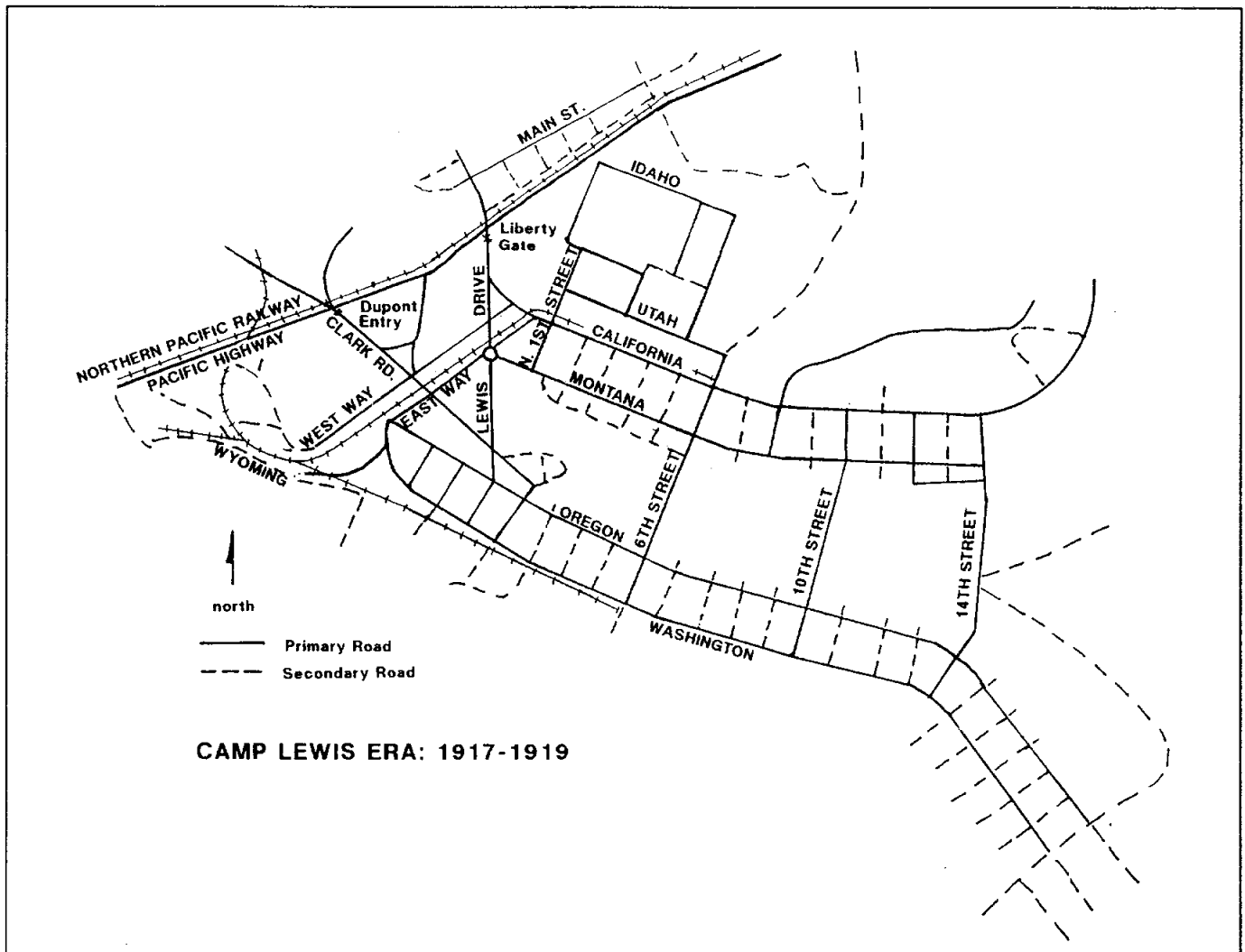
period when twelve, five-unit, multi-family townhouses were constructed north of Idaho Avenue. This area had smaller open spaces and private yards, and a different layout than the single-family residences.

The enlisted men's barracks reflected the same design principles as the other housing areas. There were four barracks quadrangles located on the north side of the parade ground, each housing a different regimental unit. The quadrangles consisted of three buildings sited in a campus-like U-shaped arrangement with the north side defined by a screen of fir trees. The interior of the quadrangles were accessed by a U-shaped service road. As with the other housing areas, the front yards were formal in character and the open spaces in the rear were informal.

Overall Organization Summary and Analysis

The overall organization of large-scale features and land uses was established during the design of the Camp Lewis and refined in the Fort Lewis site plan. Standardized site plans evolved from both military and civilian design and planning traditions. Although infill construction such as non-historic, incompatible housing added to Greenwood and Broadmoor, and parking lots added to open spaces (Barracks quadrangle interiors, etc.) have had a negative affect on the historic character of some areas, overall, the historic layout and organization of the Base retains high integrity. Features such as separate land use areas, a well-defined circulation system, and town planning principles reflected in the family housing areas are a fundamental part of the historic landscape and retain high historic integrity.

CIRCULATION



The landscape feature *Circulation* refers to principal forms of transportation and circulation routes that facilitate travel within the historic landscape and connect the landscape with its larger region.

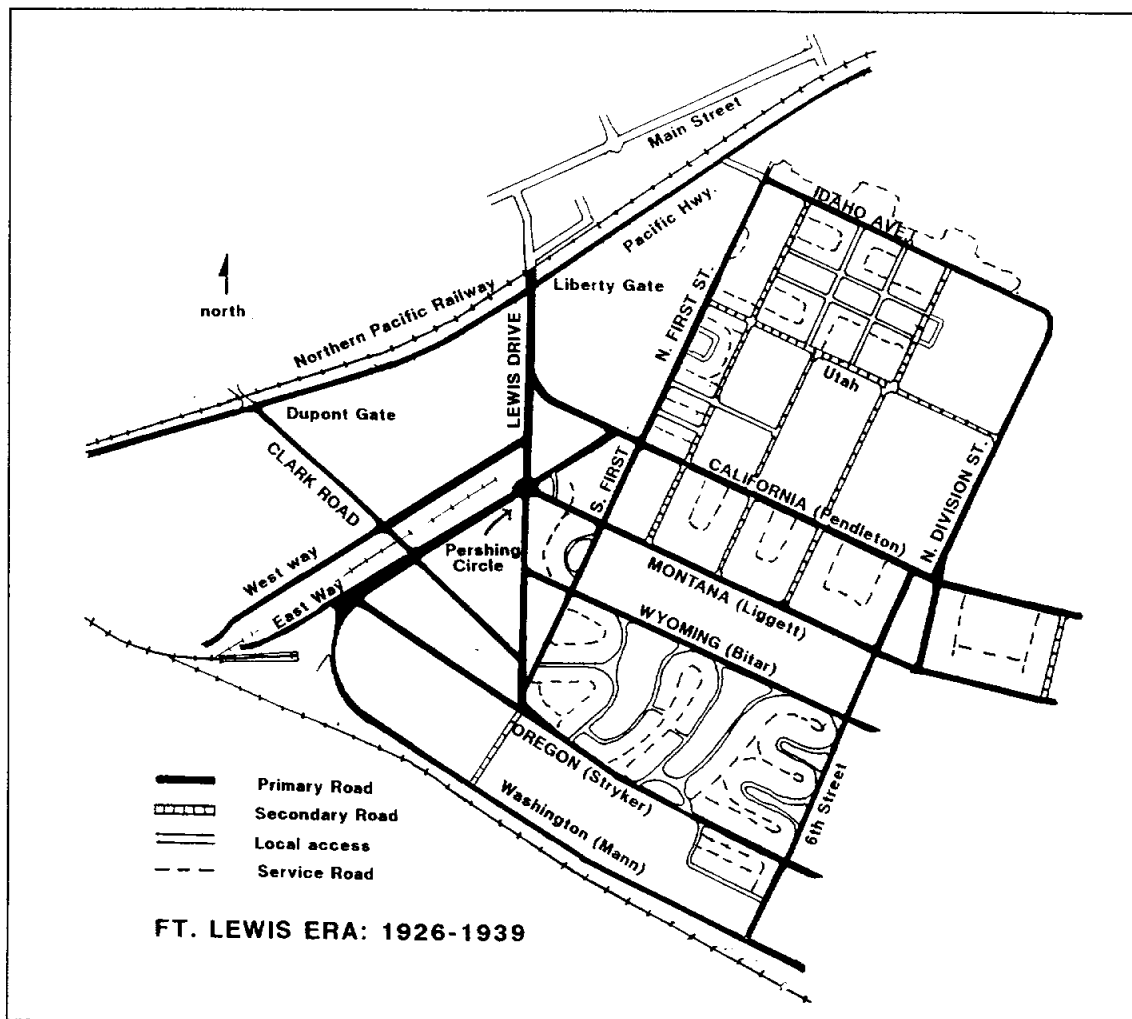
At Camp Lewis, efficient mobilization of troops was a critical requirement for the circulation system; this included easy access both between land use areas within the cantonment and to outlying regional transportation routes. The main entrance to

Camp Lewis was through the Liberty Gate, located on the west side of the site at the intersection of Lewis Drive (the main entrance road) and Pacific Highway. A major intersection, later called Pershing Circle, occurred at the junction of Lewis Drive, Montana Avenue, and East Way. Four major thoroughfares ran in an approximately east-west direction through the site; California Avenue, Montana Avenue, Oregon Avenue, and Washington Avenue. Sixth Avenue, Tenth Avenue, and

Fourteenth Avenue ran perpendicular to the four main thoroughfares connecting the north and south sides of the site. Clark Road, East Way, and West Way connected railway storage areas with the main part of the Camp. Main access roads to the hospital were First Street and Idaho Avenue.

Initially, all roads were gravel with oil surfacing but erosion problems later required heavily traveled roads to be hard surfaced with asphalt concrete. Sidewalks for pedestrians were constructed in a few areas but were not incorporated into the overall circulation system.

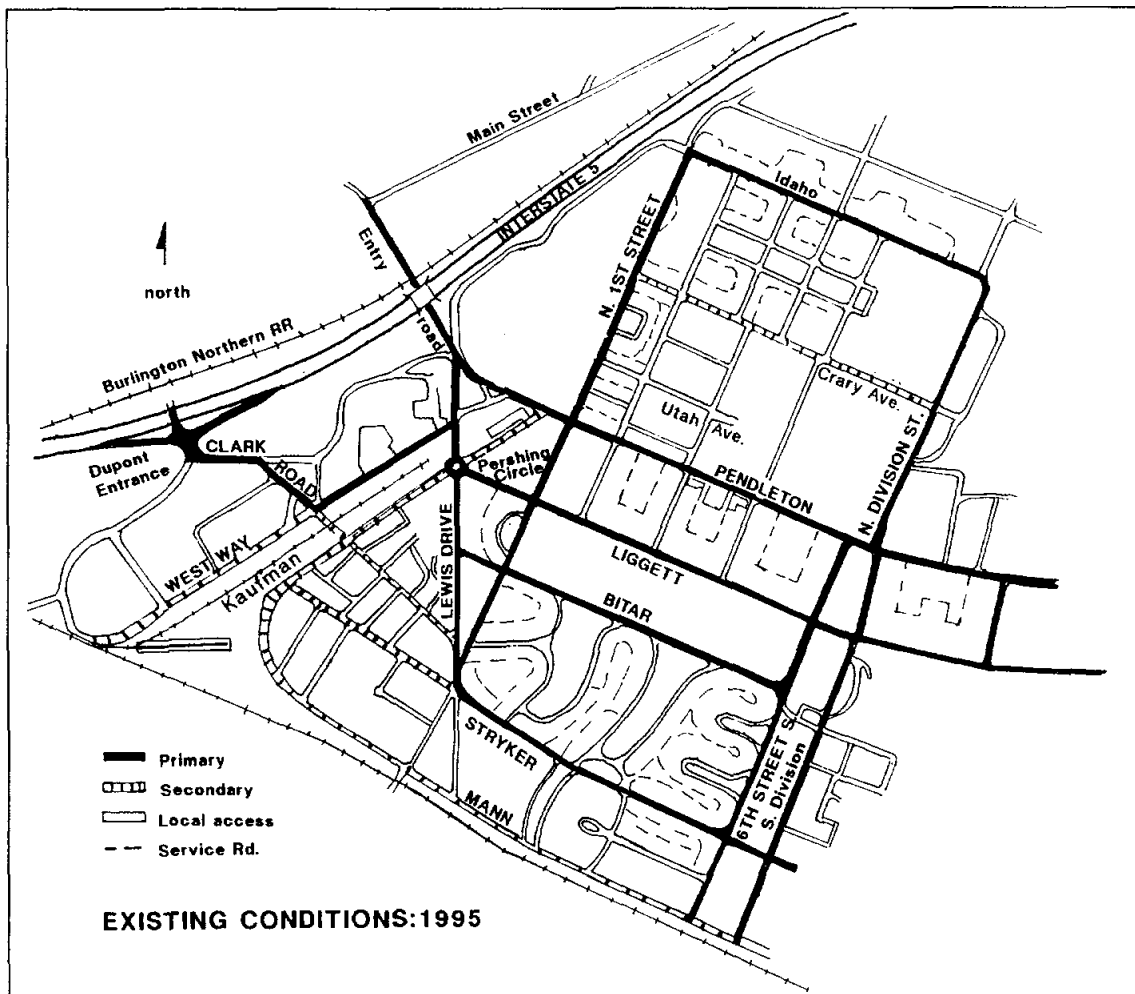
The primary roads of Camp Lewis provided the framework for the circulation system of the permanent post, Fort Lewis. Liberty Gate, the main entrance, and the Dupont Entrance continued to be used as access to the post. Primary roads dating from Camp Lewis and reused at Fort Lewis were Lewis Drive, California (Pendleton), Montana (Liggett), Oregon (Stryker), Washington (Mann), Clark Road, West Way, East Way, and Sixth Street. Pershing Circle, the large circular intersection on Lewis Drive, was a major circulation control feature. Another east-west thoroughfare, Wyoming (Bitar) was added on the south side of the parade ground. Secondary roads dating from Camp



Lewis included N. 1st St., portions of Idaho, Utah, Crary, N. 3rd St., N. 4th St., and W. 1st St.. All roads were exposed aggregate concrete with curbs. Standard road widths, corresponding to the type of road (primary, secondary, etc.,) and traffic speeds, were established throughout the site.

In addition to the primary and secondary roads which carried the heaviest traffic and connected various land use areas, local access roads, cul-de-sacs, and service roads were provided within the family housing areas. This road hierarchy was developed for efficiency as well as to safely separate pedestrians from major vehicular traffic.

Most parking spaces and private driveways were located behind buildings, creating a formal front entry, essentially free from parked cars. Pedestrians were also accommodated throughout Fort Lewis with a comprehensive concrete (exposed aggregate) sidewalk network. As with the roads, standard sidewalk widths and setbacks were established for different areas of the fort reflecting a hierarchy of use. For example, in the Barracks area, main sidewalks along Liggett are six feet wide and are setback eight feet from the road whereas, most sidewalks in the housing areas are four feet wide.

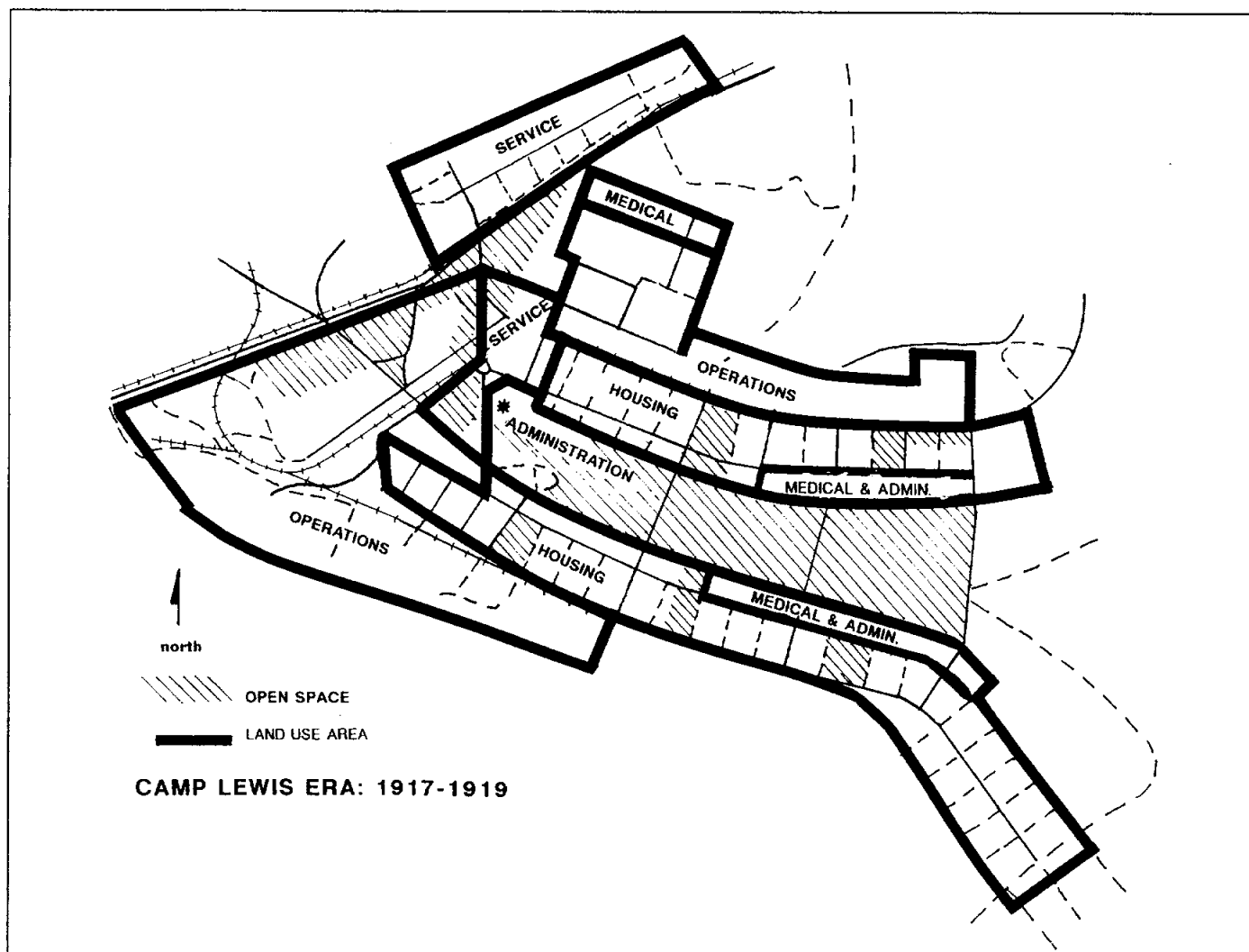


Circulation Summary and Analysis

A well-defined, efficient circulation system was a critical design feature for both Camp Lewis and Fort Lewis. The primary roads of Fort Lewis were initially designed and constructed during the Camp Lewis era. The circulation system was an integral part of the site plan, providing the framework for the overall organization of the Fort.

Although some roads have been renamed, and the Liberty Gate was relocated when Interstate-5 was constructed in the 1950s, in general, the design, layout, and material characteristics of the historic roads, sidewalks, and driveways retain high integrity and are important character-defining features in the historic landscape.

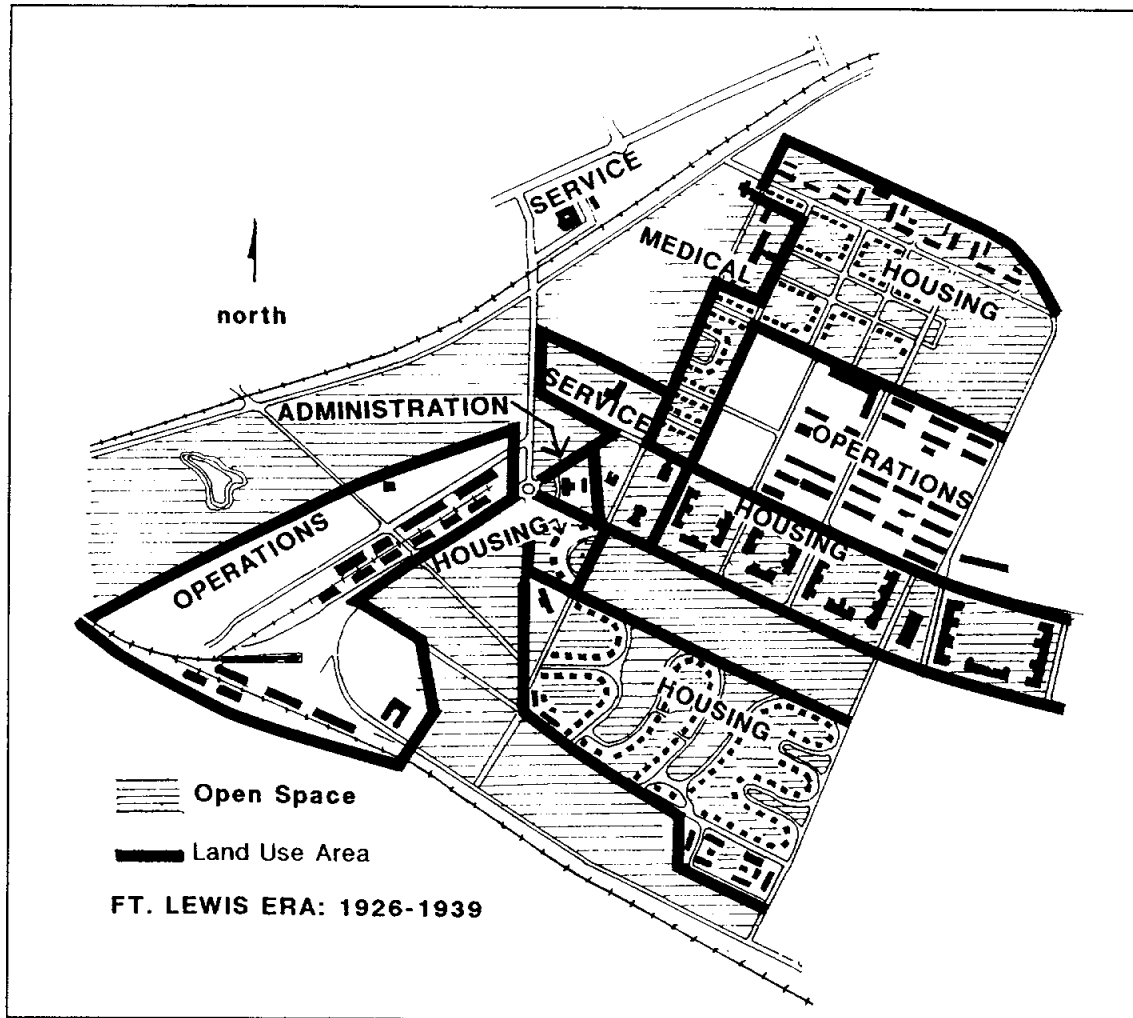
LAND USE



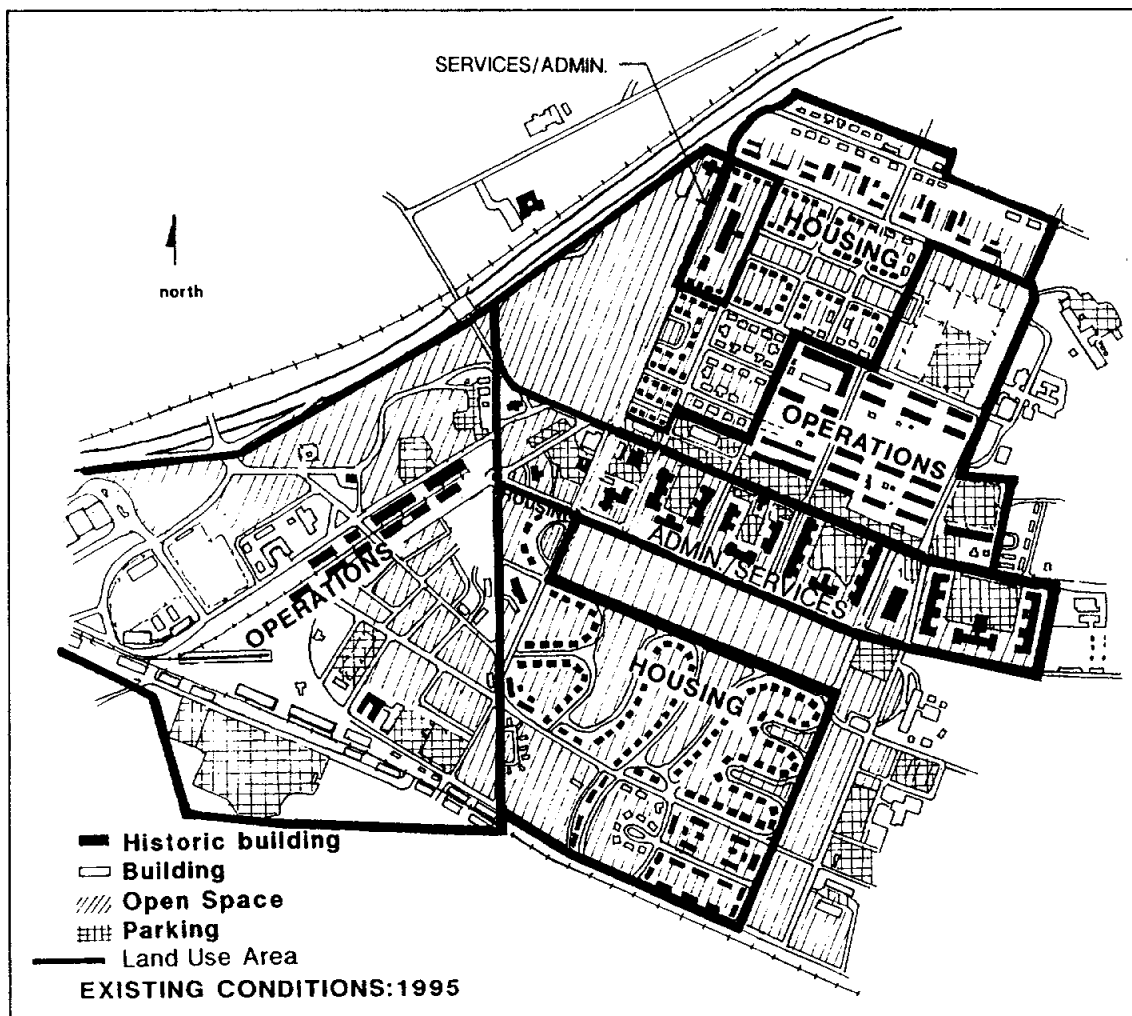
Historic *Land Use* areas are those portions of a site that contain a particular type of operation or support a specific type of activity. At Camp Lewis and Fort Lewis, principle land use activities included administration, housing, operations, medical, recreation, and service-oriented facilities.

Separation of the cantonment according to distinct land use areas and by regimental unit, was a major component of the Camp Lewis site plan; roads acted as boundaries

for most land use areas. Designed to function as independent cities, a wide range of land uses existed at the encampment including administration (Division Headquarters); housing, which was separated further by rank; medical and administrative activities; operations (stables, warehouses, worksheds); recreation (Greene Park); and service areas (community facilities-library, YMCA, Knights of Columbus, etc.).



When the site plan for Fort Lewis was designed, many of the same land use area locations from Camp Lewis were reused. For example the locations of the parade ground, warehouse and workshed activities, housing, service area, and hospital were approximately the same as during the Camp Lewis era. Changes in land use during the Fort Lewis era include the addition of family housing (Greenwood) in the northwest portion of the site, near the hospital.



Land Use Summary and Analysis

The creation of site plans with distinct, separate land use areas was a fundamental feature in standard military plans during the temporary cantonment and permanent post construction periods. Closely tied to the overall organization of the site, land use patterns are a key part of this historic designed landscape. Land use areas at Fort Lewis were established during the Camp Lewis era and many of these areas are still utilized and retain integrity today. These land use areas include housing (with four distinct housing areas) and operations. Current plans call for the adaptive reuse of several buildings in the barracks housing

area-changing the land use from housing for enlisted personnel to offices and administrative uses. Other land use deviations from the historic eras include several infill areas where temporary W.W.II. buildings were constructed: many of these buildings are slated for demolition.

STRUCTURES



*Standard temporary
buildings at Camp Lewis*

Structures include the types of buildings, structures, and objects present in the historic landscape. Identification and descriptions of the function, form, materials, methods of construction, architectural style, builder, and location of structures are also analyzed. The majority of structures at Camp Lewis and Fort Lewis were buildings designed by the military. Additional structures and objects include a coal trestle, gate, and a monument.

Most of the buildings at Camp Lewis were constructed from standard blueprints designed by the Quartermaster Corps. Built as temporary structures, the buildings were simple wood-frame structures; most had vertical board siding and gable roofs. The barracks were two-story buildings with gable roofs; they were oriented north-south along the east-west running roads. In addition to military buildings, community facilities such as the Knights of Columbus, the YMCA etc., were constructed in a variety of architectural styles. At Greene Park, the amusement center constructed for the

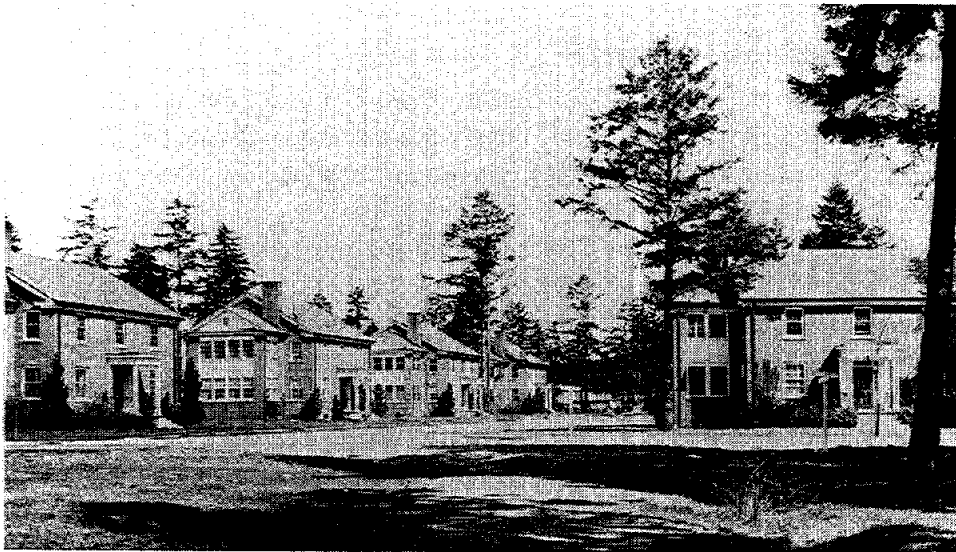
soldiers northwest of the encampment, most buildings were the Swiss Chalet (Western Stick) architectural style.

Other structures constructed at the camp included the Liberty Gate designed by architect Kirtland Kelsey Cutter. The gate resembled the old blockhouses of Northwest forts; it was a rustic fieldstone and squared log gate with roofed archways for pedestrians. At the southwest corner of the site, a railroad spur off the Northern Pacific Railway line connected to an elevated concrete coal trestle that was used to deliver coal.

Only nine of the two thousand buildings constructed at Camp Lewis exist today; two additional structures also survive. The buildings include The Salvation Army Red Shield Inn, a rustic Swiss chalet style building historically located in Greene Park and completed in the fall of 1919. It now functions as the Fort Lewis Museum (#4320). The Red Cross Hostess House,

constructed in 1918-1919, was a recreation facility for returning soldiers who were convalescing from W.W.I (#4274). It has a symmetrical cross-shaped floor plan, a Greek revival facade and double-height, multi-pane windows. The other buildings are single-story, wood-frame, gable-roofed structures. They were used as warehouses and could be reached by both the railroad and roads. In addition to the above buildings, two structures also survive from the Camp Lewis era; the Liberty Gate, which was moved from its original location in the mid-1950s to make way for Interstate 5, and remnants of the coal trestle.

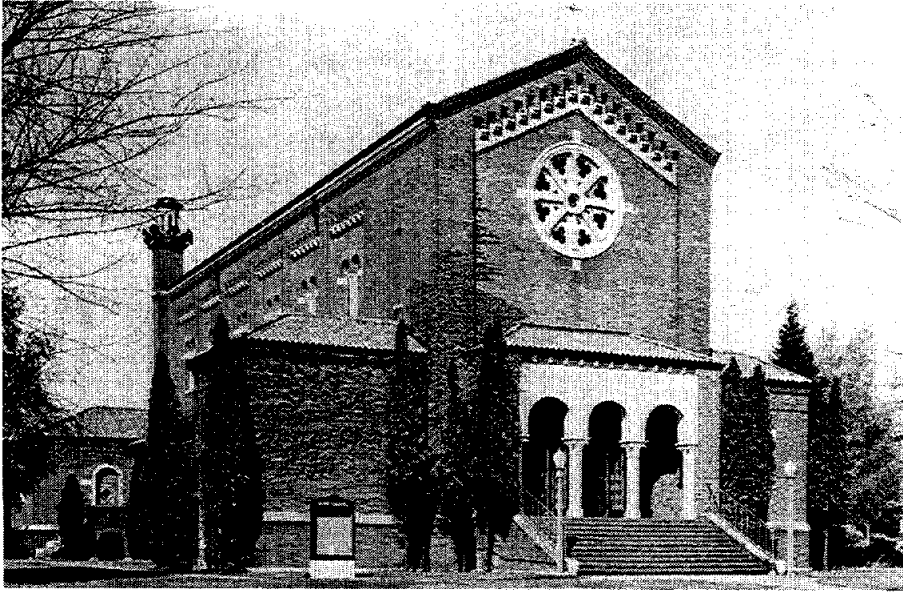
and/or porticos. Buildings include Generals' quarters, Officers' quarters, Non-Commissioned Officers' quarters, garages, barracks, service buildings (bank, theater, chapel, etc.), headquarters, hospital, fire station, gun sheds, and warehouses. The size, scale, and ornamentation of family houses varied according to military rank. The Generals' quarters were the largest and most elaborate structures, and the Officers' quarters (Broadmoor) and NCO quarters (Greenwood) were second and third in size and scale respectively.



Standard permanent building at Ft. Lewis. Officers' Quarters in Broadmoor.

Use of standardized building plans and unified architectural styles was an essential design characteristic of permanent Army bases in the 1920s and 1930s. Georgian Colonial Revival style architecture, one of several standard styles selected by the Army during this time period, was used at Fort Lewis. In general, these buildings were red brick structures with clay tile, gable or hipped roofs, and classically-styled entries

Buildings that differed in architectural treatment included the chapel, a Lombardy-Romanesque-Revival style structure designed by H. H. Ginnold and constructed by Public Works Administration workers and artists; building 1017, originally a bank built by the National Bank of Washington in the Italian Romanesque style; and the gas



*Lombardy-Romanesque
Revival style Chapel
designed by H.H.
Ginnold.*

station, a rustic fieldstone structure similar in design to the Camp Lewis Liberty Gate. Additional structures constructed during the permanent base era include the 91st Division Monument, a sandstone and bronze sculpture by Avard Fairbanks. For a detailed building inventory see Historic Properties Report: Fort Lewis Historic District and Vancouver Barracks Historic District.ⁱ

Structures Summary and Analysis

Structures remaining from Camp Lewis are examples of the first nationally directed design and planning effort of the U.S. Army. Although the architectural design of these buildings differs from the later period, they represent a continuity between land use areas and building types common to both historic eras, underscoring the fact that the Camp Lewis site plan provided the framework for the Fort Lewis site plan. For example, a majority of the remaining Camp Lewis buildings are warehouses that were located in warehouse (Army operations) land use areas during both historic eras. And, the

Red Cross Hostess House was located in a medical operations area during both eras.

At Fort Lewis, the use of a unified architectural style and a well-defined building hierarchy are prime examples of standard military design principles implemented under the Housing Program of 1926. Although pockets of temporary W.W.II. buildings constructed in open spaces in the core development area are incompatible with the historic buildings in style, most buildings constructed between 1926-1939 have been preserved and retain high historic integrity.

VEGETATION

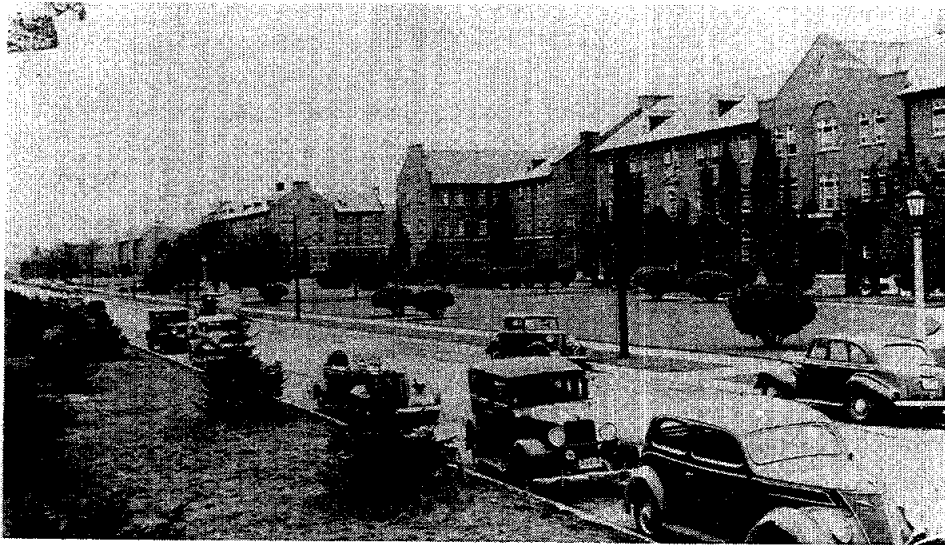
The character-defining feature *Vegetation* consists of the principal and significant vegetation found in the historic landscape and is identified by type, design principles, location, and function. Native plant communities were the predominant vegetation type during the Camp Lewis era. At Fort Lewis, ornamental vegetation, introduced as part of a comprehensive landscaping plan, was used along with the

temporary cantonments. However, to boost moral and reduce boredom, beautification projects were initiated in some areas of the encampment; soldiers volunteered their time and labor to create and maintain stone-lined, sparsely vegetated planting beds.

During the 1920s-1930s construction era, the appearance of bases changed dramatically from the sparse to non-existent ornamental planting provided at temporary cantonments. This occurred when

Plantings at barracks, 1940.

Note: See historic light standard on right.



incorporation of existing vegetation. Camp Lewis was located in the Puget Sound Area vegetation zone and vegetation in the vicinity of the camp consisted of extensive prairies. In addition to grasses and forbs, these prairies were sometimes invaded by Douglas-fir trees (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), and were associated with groves of Oregon oak trees (*Quercus garryana*).ⁱⁱ While some of the existing small stands of Douglas-fir and Oregon oak trees were retained and incorporated into the site, standard planting plans were not a part of the design for

comprehensive landscaping plans were integrated into the national site planning process. Landscape architects and architects in the Planning Division of the Construction Division Office designed standard landscape plans such as "Quartermaster Corps' Typical Landscape Plantings", developed in 1933-34 (see Appendix A.).ⁱⁱⁱ These plans set forth general design principles for a planting style popular in the 1920s and 1930s called foundation planting. These standard plans were developed so they could be adapted to different regions of the country. This was



Foundation planting in Broadmoor, 1995.

achieved by basing vegetation types on different plant shapes and sizes. Species at each base could then be selected on the basis of regional climatic conditions. These planting plans were also prepared for different building types such as administration, and different quarters, etc.

At Fort Lewis, research indicates an overall planting effort that followed the national standard plans was implemented during the building construction period. The following design principles and strategies were used throughout the Fort which created a cohesive and unified appearance for the entire developed area.

Open spaces with native and introduced trees:

As with Camp Lewis, existing clusters of native Douglas-fir and Oregon oak trees were incorporated into the designed landscape. This was especially true for the open spaces located in family housing areas; for example, in Broadmoor and Greenwood. Open spaces played an important role in separating and defining different land use areas as well as creating a park-like setting.

Foundation Planting:

Foundation planting was a landscape design concept popular in the 1920s in the United States. It consisted of planting vegetation along building foundations which served to: connect and blend the building with the grounds and surrounding vegetation; enhance the architecture and soften any harsh architectural lines; and screen objectionable building features such as unattractive foundation walls, etc. Foundation planting emphasized the use of the largest or most conspicuous plants (colorful, distinct form, large texture) at accent points--entries and building corners--with smaller, finer textured species planted in between.

At Fort Lewis, a common plant palette was used throughout the base which helped create a cohesive appearance in all land use areas. Columnar-shaped (upright forms) conifers were commonly used as accent plants at building corners and entries. The overall design was generally informal as most plants, with the exception of some hedges, were not pruned into formal geometric shapes. Likewise, foundation planting beds



Street trees and open space in Broadmoor, 1995.

were not lined with landscape materials. For a list of plant species commonly used at Fort Lewis, see Appendix B. Just as the size, scale and ornamentation of buildings varied according to military rank, the level of planting varied for different housing areas. The Generals' quarters had the most luxurious plantings with foundation trees and shrubs extending well out into the lawns, while plantings in Greenwood (NCO quarters) were much more sparse.

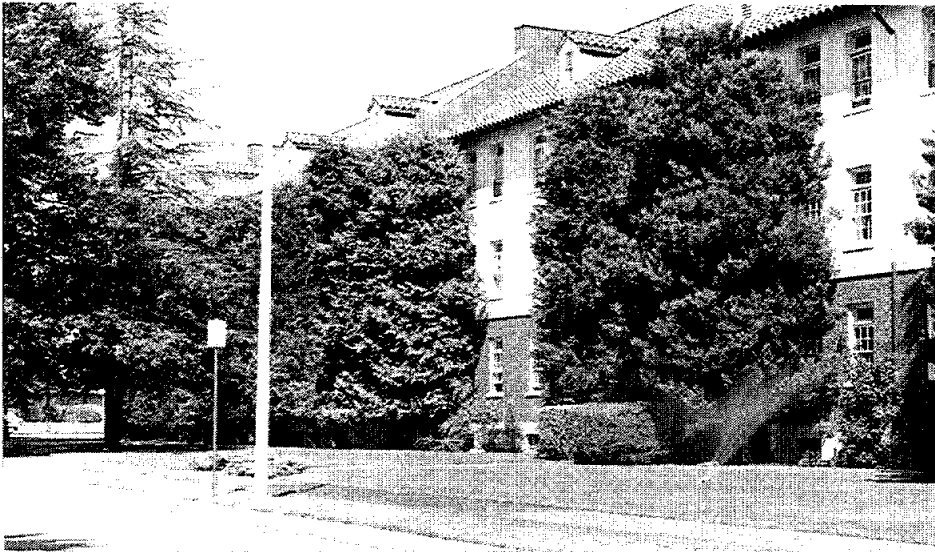
Vegetation used for spatial definition:

Trees and shrubs were used for both functional and aesthetic purposes at the Fort. Vegetation was used as visual screens to hide and/or separate incompatible land use areas, control pedestrian circulation, frame views, and to create private spaces at housing areas. Trees and shrubs planted in informal arrangements between buildings helped integrate the buildings with their surroundings and break up the more formal appearance of foundation planting. The extensive use of lawns in conjunction with trees and shrubs helped create a homogenous park-like appearance for the fort.

Street Trees:

Street trees were an important unifying feature of the designed landscape and were planted in many areas of the base including Broadmoor, the Barracks, Greenwood, and along several primary roads. American elm (*Ulmus americana*) trees were the most common street tree planted at Fort Lewis. Other species planted as street trees in Broadmoor and Greenwood include hawthorns, gray poplars, mountain ash and blue spruce. The American elm trees were planted between the street and sidewalk and at fairly regular intervals (60'-75' on average) provided an almost continuous tree canopy across the roads.

Prior to the 1930s, the American elm was a highly popular ornamental tree in America; an unofficial natural symbol of patriotism.^{iv} Their symmetrical vase-like shape created a high, graceful, arching canopy. When Dutch Elm Disease arrived in North America from Asia about 1930, it quickly spread across the eastern and midwestern portions of the U.S., devastating the American elm population and greatly changing the verdant, well-shaded character of many towns and cities. The



Foundation planting at barracks showing neglected, overgrown and incorrectly pruned (topped) trees obscuring buildings.

disease spread more slowly to and along the west coast and the Fort Lewis American elm population has remained unaffected by the disease to date.

Vegetation Summary and Analysis

The inclusion of comprehensive landscaping plans in the design of permanent military bases at a national level, set their design process and visual character apart from the temporary cantonment era. Planting plans were meant “to enrich the design and the Post, itself” creating a livable and pleasant outdoor environment to correspond with the architects’ efforts to create well designed building interiors and exteriors.^v The design principles that define the comprehensive landscaping at Fort Lewis successfully achieved these national goals. Foundation planting, shrubs and trees used as spatial definition and in open spaces, and street trees are significant character-defining features of the designed historic landscape. The existence of a healthy population of American elm trees at Ft. Lewis is significant for historical, aesthetic, and botanical reasons.

Much of the original plant material still survives today and illustrates well the standard planting philosophy established at a national level. However, age and lack of regular maintenance have begun to take their toll on the health and appearance of the historic vegetation. Poor pruning practices such as topping and extreme ‘limbing up’ of foundation trees, and the removal and non-replacement of trees and shrubs are beginning to affect the integrity of the historic plantings. In addition, the poor choice of species and location of some of the original plant material (too large and too close), as well as just the natural life cycles of some vegetation has begun to affect the condition of some other historic features such as sidewalks and buildings. Unlike buildings which are static in nature, vegetation is a dynamic system and a comprehensive preservation and rehabilitation treatment, such as maintenance and replacement strategies, can maintain and enhance the landscape’s integrity.



*Sweeping view down the
parade ground toward
Mt. Rainier, 1939.*

VIEWS AND VISTAS

The natural beauty of the Camp Lewis/Fort Lewis area, was an often-cited amenity and maintaining or intentionally framing views of both distant and nearby surroundings was incorporated into the design of site plans for both historic eras. The most dramatic distant view was towards the east-southeast of Mt. Rainier. This view was a key element in establishing the layout and orientation of the standard site plans for both development periods. The east-west alignment of the parade ground (during both historic eras) and arrangement of the Generals' quarters (during Fort Lewis era) took full advantage of the sweeping, open view across Jackson's Prairie towards the mountain.

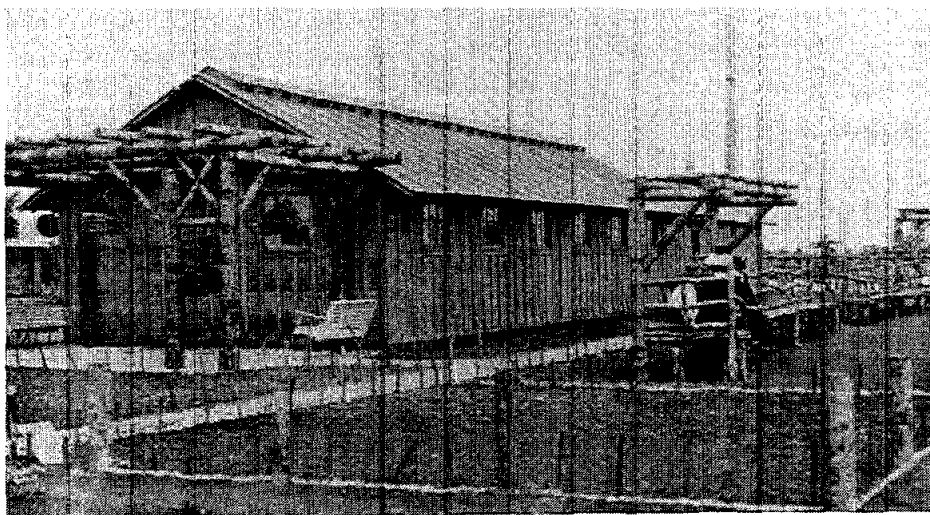
Establishing and emphasizing nearby views was also an important consideration in creating the park-like character at the post. Open spaces planted with lawns, trees, and shrubs were common design features in the housing areas as well as other parts of the historic landscape.

Views and Vistas Summary and Analysis

Providing distant and nearby views played an important role in the orientation and location of several primary landscape features (parade ground and buildings), and incorporating open spaces into the site plan created a distinct historic character. Today, the parade ground only extends about 710 feet to South 6th Street: a casualty of later extensive development on the prairie. However, despite the loss of the once unobstructed view across Jackson's Prairie, the existing parade ground still affords a dramatic view of Mt. Rainier and acts as an essential organizing feature in the landscape.

Most open spaces inside the family housing areas also remain, although many open spaces that acted as buffers or transition zones between land use areas have been replaced with parking lots or temporary buildings. The remaining views retain historic integrity and are important historic landscape components.

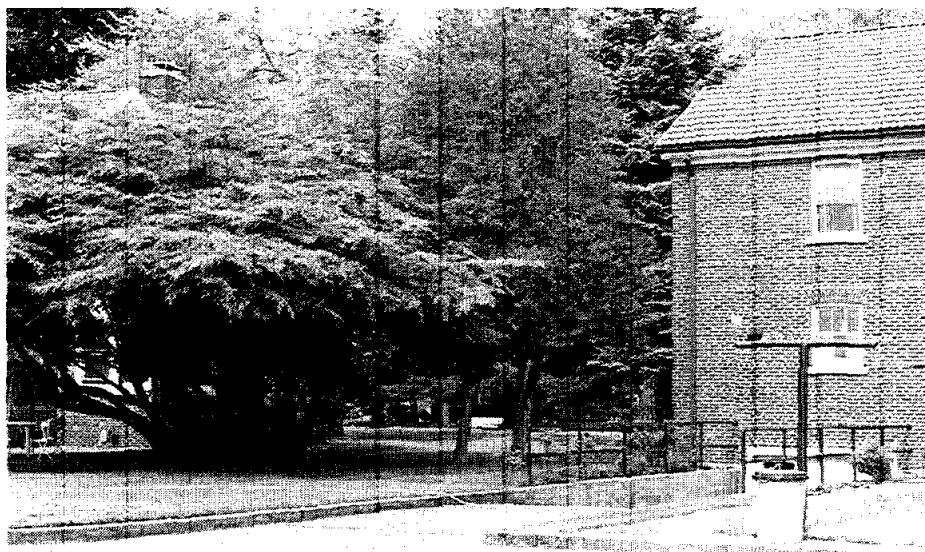
SMALL-SCALE FEATURES



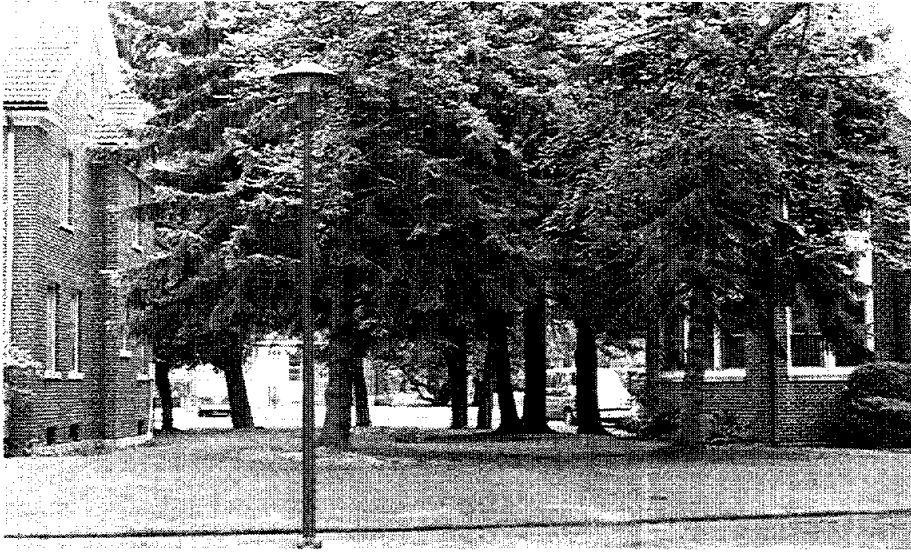
*Rustic site furniture at
Camp Lewis, ca. 1919.*

Small-scale features are elements other than structures, buildings, and objects that add to the landscape's setting. At Camp Lewis and Fort Lewis, small-scale features included fences and guardrails, site furniture, lighting, signs, and other utilitarian elements.

At Camp Lewis, landscape beautification efforts by the soldiers included constructing rustic wood furniture, trellises, benches, fences, and planters, to enhance the appearance of certain buildings. None of these features exist today.



*Metal guardrails and
clothesline posts in
Broadmoor, 1995.*



*Existing street lights at
Ft. Lewis, 1995*

During the Fort Lewis design era, there were no fences or site furniture designed or constructed at the Base. Other small-scale features appeared to be utilitarian in nature including such items as wood post street signs, round metal guardrails at the edge of basement garage driveways at the Generals' quarters and in Broadmoor, and round metal, T-shaped clothesline posts located at the rear or in side yards in the family housing areas.

Although research to date cannot confirm the incorporation of a unified street lighting system as part of the original site plan, by 1940, historic photos indicate a single light pole and light standard style was used along streets in Broadmoor, at the hospital, and along Liggett Avenue. They appeared to be about twelve feet tall, had a tapered concrete pole, and octagonal-shaped metal and glass standard; the metal was painted a dark color.

Small-scale Features Summary and Analysis

There appeared to be few small-scale features designed for the historic landscape and those that were were primarily functional

in design. The utilitarian materials and design of guardrails and clotheslines complemented the informal character of their location; the service-oriented back yards of houses. The use of vegetation rather than fences to define and screen private spaces helped create an open, park-like setting at the Fort.

Today, only the metal guard rails and clothesline poles remain. The historic street lights were replaced with a more modern, metal pole and light standard that appears more light-weight than its historic precedent. Wooden street signs were also replaced with typical metal signs and poles.

HISTORIC CHARACTER AREAS

HISTORIC CHARACTER AREAS

Based on the historic research and landscape analysis, eight historic character areas were identified. Character areas are defined as landscape areas that have similar types and concentrations of resources (character-defining features such as land use, organization, circulation, structures, vegetation, etc.), significance, and visual character. Character areas are broadly organized according to land use.

ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICES

This area includes historic administrative buildings (headquarters), and service buildings such as the chapel, gym, bank, red cross building, and theater. Distinguishing characteristics include uniform setbacks, circulation features (roads and sidewalks), standard building plans, standard planting plans, and standard small-scale features.

PARADE GROUND

Located in the center of the District and oriented approximately east-west framing a dramatic view of Mt. Rainier, the Parade Ground serves as an axis and major organizing feature in the landscape. It is a large, narrow rectangular open space consisting of turf and a narrow band of coniferous trees on the north and south sides which act as screens.

Housing Areas

GENERAL'S QUARTERS:

Located at the west end of the Parade ground, this area includes five detached, single-family houses; the triangular-shaped open space at the rear of the houses; and the 91st Monument and associated grounds in front of the houses. Distinguishing

characteristics include a semi-circular building organization with uniform setbacks and sidewalks; standard buildings (the largest and most elaborate houses); standard planting plans (the most luxuriant of the housing areas); and a large vegetated open space which serves as a buffer.

BROADMOOR-OFFICERS' QUARTERS:

Located south of the Parade Ground, Broadmoor is the largest housing area consisting of detached single family houses, multi-family, and bachelor officer quarters; garages; and open spaces. Distinguishing characteristics include curvilinear roads and building layouts; uniform setbacks and sidewalks; standard buildings; standard planting plans; and large, formal and informal open spaces.

GREENWOOD-NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS' QUARTERS:

Located in the northwest part of the District, Greenwood consists of single-family houses; multi-family quarters; the historic hospital and W.W.I Red Cross building; and open spaces. Distinguishing characteristics include U-shaped roads and building layouts; uniform setbacks and sidewalks; standard building plans; standard planting plans; and formal and informal open spaces.

HISTORIC BARRACKS-ENLISTED PERSONNEL'S QUARTERS:

The historic barracks area is located on the north side of the Parade Ground and consists of twelve three-story buildings. Distinguishing characteristics include its layout-four building clusters in U-shaped arrangements with open spaces in the interior; uniform setbacks, roads, and

sidewalks; standard building plans, and standard planting plans. The historic, vegetated open spaces were converted to parking lots.

Operation Areas

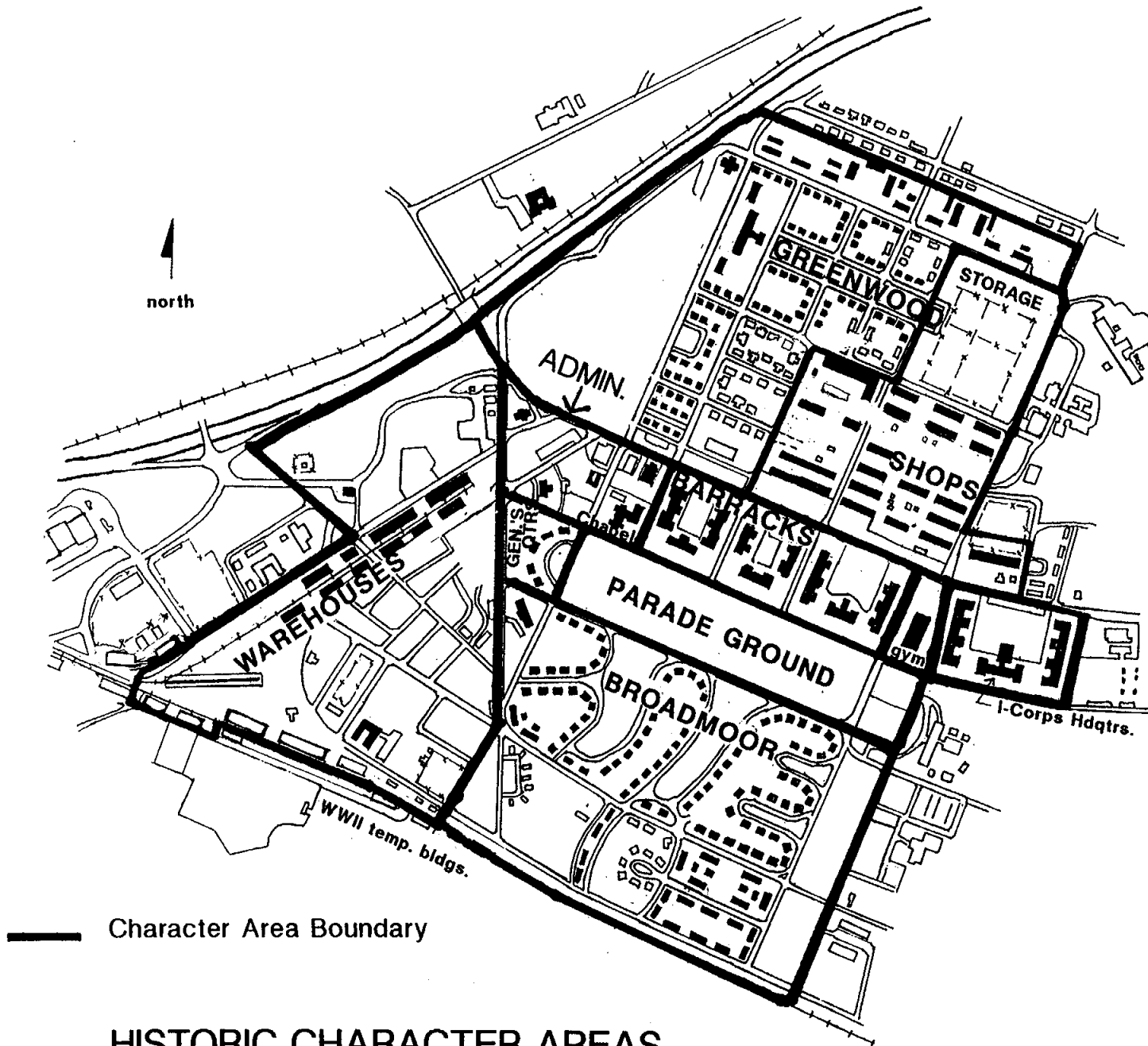
HISTORIC GUN SHEDS AND STABLES AREA :

This operation area is located east of Greenwood between Pendleton and Crary Avenue. Originally designed as gun sheds and stables, buildings in this area have been converted to use as shop buildings. Distinguishing characteristics include uniform building orientations and setbacks, and standard building plans. Built as a work area, there are no sidewalks, defined roads or vegetation within the area.

HISTORIC WAREHOUSE AREA:

This operations area is located west of Lewis Drive and consists of warehouses, railroad tracks and platforms, a gas station, coal trestle, and open spaces. Distinguishing characteristics include standard building plans, uniform setbacks, linear arrangement of buildings along the railroad tracks; and a functional, utilitarian visual character. The core of the built area contains no vegetation.

Open spaces outside the core area consist of turf and scattered trees. A small allee of trees and historic marker located near the west end of Clark Road, mark the original alignment of Clark Road as it crossed historic Pacific Highway (prior to I-5).



Character Area Boundary

HISTORIC CHARACTER AREAS

HISTORIC PRESERVATION MANAGEMENT ZONES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION MANAGEMENT ZONES

Management zones are based on character areas and levels of landscape integrity. These zones are used as a tool to identify and establish appropriate types of preservation treatment and design recommendations so that future development and/or actions occurring within the historic district will not have an adverse affect on significant historic resources. Two major historic integrity zones have been identified, Zones I and II; both are located within the official National Register Historic District boundary. One other type of management area labeled Historic Context Management Area (H/C) include non-contributing areas that are located inside the National Register Historic District as well as areas adjacent to the District. Although these areas have lost their historic integrity, their management will have a significant effect on the Historic District. General preservation guidelines will also apply to these areas so the impact of non-historic development to the District will be limited.

ZONE I: HOUSING AND ADMINISTRATION AREAS

Housing and administrative character areas with historic significance and integrity related to both historic eras (Camp Lewis: 1917-1919 and Fort Lewis: 1926-1939). The unifying element of the administration area and housing areas is the treatment of the vegetation. Standard planting plans and principles were designed at a National level, applied in a consistent manner and with a common plant palette creating a cohesive visual character throughout Zone I.

Satisfying functional needs as well as creating an aesthetic living environment were primary design goals.

ZONE II: OPERATION AREAS

Army operations character areas with historic significance and integrity related to both historic eras (Camp Lewis: 1917-1919 and Fort Lewis: 1926-1939). Operation areas were designed as working environments; efficiency and function were the primary design goals.

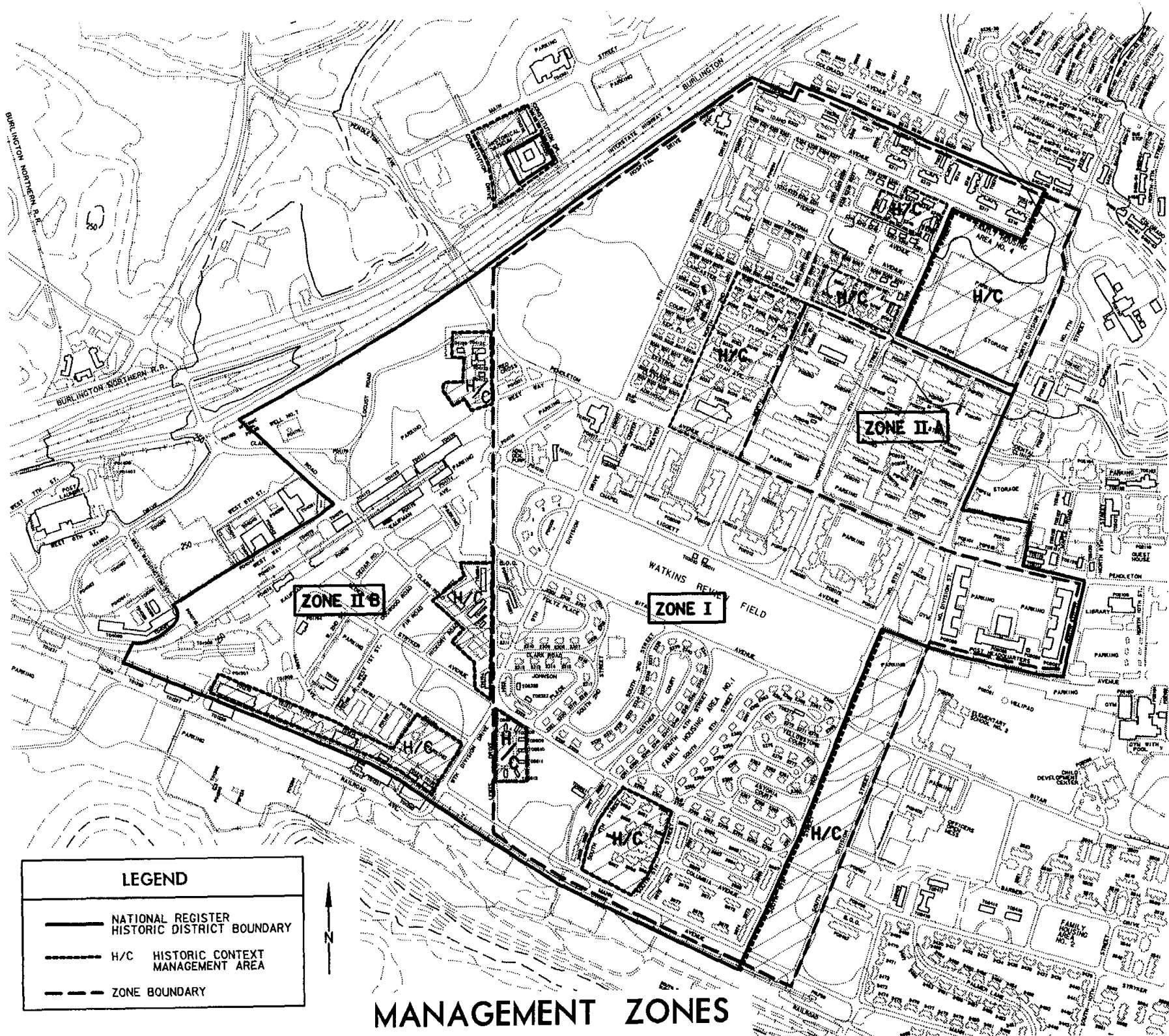
IIA. The historic gun sheds and stables

operations area located east of Greenwood.

IIB. The historic warehouse operations area west of Lewis Drive

HISTORIC CONTEXT AREA (H/C):

Non-contributing housing areas within the National Register Historic District and buffer areas adjacent to the east side of the District.



LEGEND	
	NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT BOUNDARY
	H/C HISTORIC CONTEXT MANAGEMENT AREA
	ZONE BOUNDARY

MANAGEMENT ZONES

ENDNOTES

¹ J. Hiram Green, "The First Fifty Thousand", The U.S. Army Weekly, 1 (20 July 1917), 8.

Belmore Browne, compiler, Camp Lewis: A History of the Development of the Largest Permanent Military Cantonment in the United States, (Tacoma, WA, 1918), 15.

² Barbara Hightower, Historic Properties Report: Ft. Lewis Historic District and Vancouver Barracks Historic District, Contract DAKF57-85-m-T073 bet. Building Technology Incorporated, Silver Spring, Maryland and Ft. Lewis, Washington. Final Report, June 1986.

³ Jerry F. Franklin, and C. T. Dyrness, Natural Vegetation of Oregon and Washington, USDA Forest Service Technical Report PNW-8, PNW Forest and Range Experiment Station, Portland, Oregon, 1973, p. 88-89.

⁴ Construction Division Office of Quartermaster General, "Quartermaster Corps' Typical Landscape Plantings," For NCO quarters. No. 603-100, drawn by: LG. Linnard, 1933. On file at Hanbury, Evans, Newill, Vlattas & Company, Norfolk, VA. Originally from Ft. Belvoir Plan Room. Ft. Belvoir, VA. These plans were discovered after the Landscape Development Plan Research Phase was complete and provided important confirmation for design principles identified through the use of secondary references. Records indicate, typical plans were developed for Officers' quarters, administration buildings, streets, chapels and theaters.

⁵ Arthur Lee Jacobson, Trees of Seattle, Sasquatch Books, Seattle, WA., 1989, pg. 91-92.

⁶ E. Mack Hallauer, "Landscaping the Army Post", The Quartermaster Review, No. 19, July-Aug. 1939, p. 28-31.